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6/3/04
A.W.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventors: Nadj, *et al.* Attorney Docket No.: SIA-P032
Serial No.: 09/728,147 Group Art Unit: 2175
Filed: Herewith Examiner: Mahmoudi, Hassan

Title: Data Structure and Method for Sorting Using Heap-Supernodes

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

The Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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MAY 21 2004

Technology Center 2100

Sir:

The current Preliminary Amendment is filed concurrently with the enclosed Request for Continuing Examination (RCE). A current listing of the claims as presented begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.

Conclusion begins on page 6 of this paper.